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BEDROOM FURNITURE.

BY JAMES THOMSON.



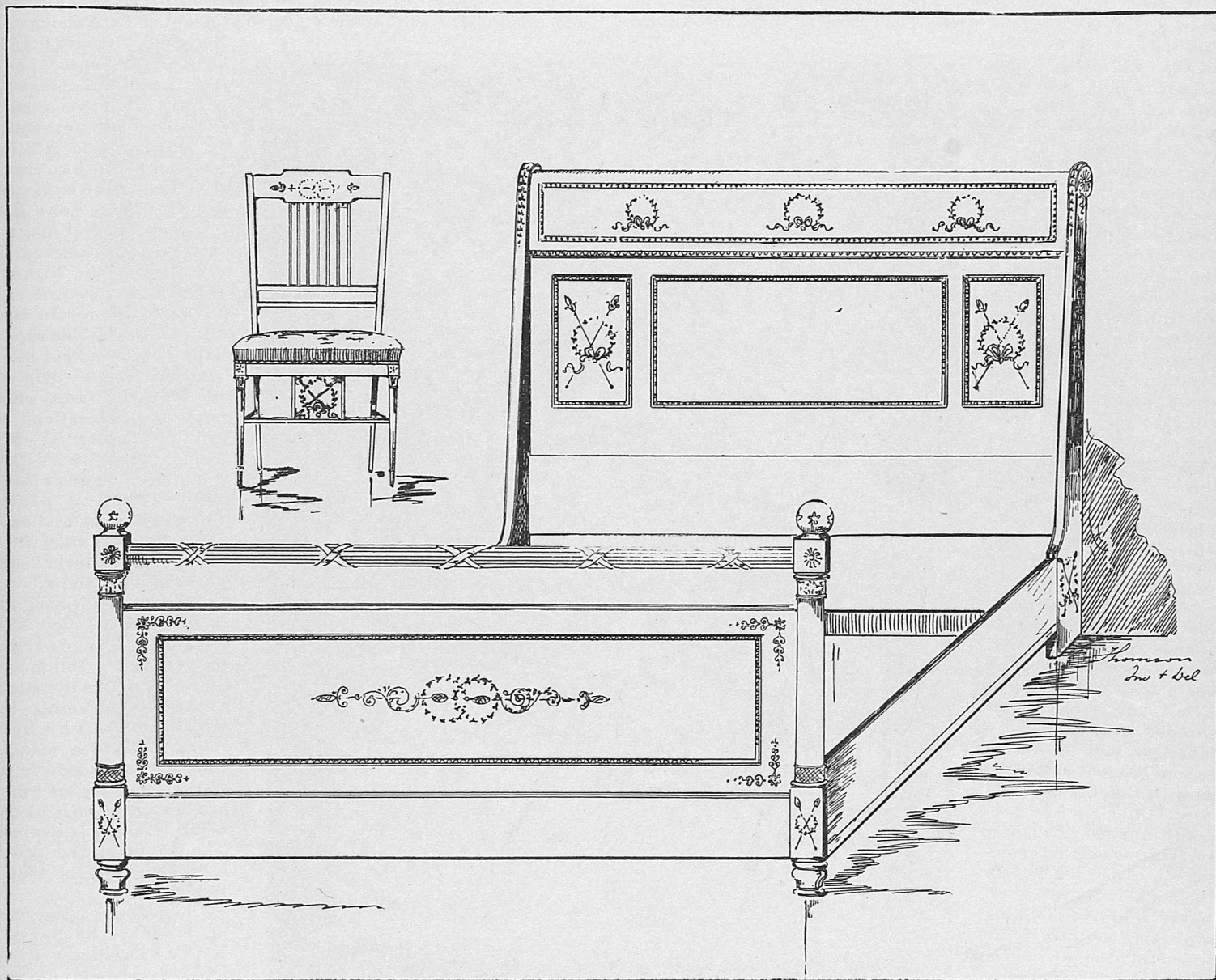
EDROOM suites in the beautiful bird's-eye maple and curly birch seem to meet the prevailing demand for something bright and lightsome.

In apartments decorated in light and cheerful colors nothing can be more fitting or charming in effect. Some prefer a bedstead of brass; for such a choice no other woods will harmonize so well.

Mahogany with handsomely marked grains divides the honors with the light woods. The newest patterns are in the style of the first Empire. These are made in the dark mahogany, ornamented with ormolu mountings.

enamel and gold will be of interest. These are in the Louis XVth style and have panels of painted tapestry in delicate colorings. In this same style are some handsome suites in maple, curly birch, cherry and mahogany, all finished light. Some of these are touched off with ormolu as well as being carved. The prices are for persons of moderate means; a nice suite can be had for a hundred dollars, and are nearly the "correct thing" in fashionable furnishing. Although the "Empire" style is in favor, there are many who dislike so much of the brass ornament as is usually seen on it. Therefore, and on account of its stiff appearance, the public, as a rule, prefer the more graceful "Louis Quinze." Oak for bedrooms has entirely gone out of fashion. If one would be in the "swim" do not on any account be tempted to purchase an oak bedroom suite on the score of the low price; the dealer knows what he is about.

With many people of taste the preference is now for woods finished in the natural colors. The so-called antique 16th century and Cremona finishes have been carried to such extremes



BEDROOM FURNITURE IN THE EMPIRE STYLE. DESIGNED BY JAMES THOMSON.

The "Adam" is also a style that finds favor among people of refinement. This style, which has much of the character of our own Colonial, is usually ornamented with designs in Marquetry. The ornament, both in carving and inlay, is extremely neat and chaste, the carving being in low relief and paneled surfaces bordered with delicate classic beading or carved mouldings.

The taste is becoming more decided for a little quiet carving, nicely executed, rather than for that which makes a greater display and is more coarsely treated. For those who need not hesitate on account of cost, some charming suites in cream

that an outraged public has rebelled and will have none of them. Handsomely grained woods seldom look better for darkening and many a costly interior has been ruined in the staining.

The finishing of fine woods is a business in itself, requiring experience and special study, as well as nice discrimination in the management of stains. Notwithstanding this there is many a bungler whose sole training has been gained in handling a paint brush, who does not hesitate to undertake the finishing of the finest woodwork—often with disastrous results.